

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus configured to provide data analysis to assist a business entity in improving operations relative to specified business metrics, the apparatus comprising:

at least one database system containing operations data related to the business entity;

a first computer mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, the first computer mechanism containing a set of performance metric tools, for use in measuring specified business operations; and

a second computer mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, containing a set of management tools configured to produce data to assist the business entity in self measurement, metric comparisons, and strategic plans development through the use of data contained in the at least one database system, wherein said data to assist the business entity in strategic plans development comprises reports including recommendations to increase the business entity's performance relative to specified metrics; and

wherein the performance metric tools and the management tools are configured to be accessible by a web-based client computer whereby information pertaining to a specific business entity management project may be accessed from the web-based client computer.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a third computer mechanism electronically coupled to the at least one database system, the third computer mechanism configured to contain a set of tools for workforce planning and analysis, with a companion set of learning tools to provide strategic employee development assistance

recommendations, whereby the business entity is provided recommendations for optimizing its operations with respect to the specific business metrics.

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the at least one database system contains data related to one or more data centers which contain respectively data pertaining to knowledge operations, planning operations, contribution functions, information functions, and lifestyle functions.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the data center pertaining to knowledge operations comprises one or more data functions for viewing, manipulating, graphing or downloading data pertaining to one or more of Program Management/Financial data, Capability Development Status data, Capability Deployment Status data, Business Benefits status data, or Project Open Issues data.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the Program Management/Financial data comprises data related to budgeted work completed, data related to actual work completed, data related to budgeted project dollars, and data related to actual project dollars ~~work complete data budget and actual, and project dollars data, budget and actual.~~

Claim 6 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus configured to provide data analysis to assist a business entity in improving operations relative to specified business metrics, the apparatus comprising:

at least one database system containing operations data related to the business entity;

a first computer mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, the first computer mechanism containing a set of performance metric tools, for use in measuring specified business operations;

a second computer mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, containing a set of management tools configured to produce data to assist the business entity in self measurement, metric comparisons, and strategic plans, wherein said data to assist the business entity in strategic plans development comprises reports including recommendations to increase the business entity's performance relative to specified metrics;

the performance metric tools and the management tools are configured to be accessible by a web-based client computer whereby information pertaining to a specific business entity management project may be accessed from the web-based client computer; and

a third computer mechanism electronically coupled to the at least one database system, the third computer mechanism configured to contain a set of tools for workforce planning and analysis, with a companion set of learning tools to provide strategic employee development assistance recommendations, whereby the business entity is provided recommendations for optimizing its operations with respect to the specific business metrics.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus configured to provide data analysis to assist a business entity in improving operations relative to specified business metrics, the apparatus comprising:

at least one database system containing operations data related to the business entity;

a first computer mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, the first computer mechanism containing a set of performance metric tools, for use in measuring specified business operations; and

a second computer mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, containing a set of management tools configured to produce data to assist the business

entity in self measurement, metric comparisons, and strategic plans development, wherein said data to assist the business entity in strategic plans development comprises reports including recommendations to increase the business entity's performance relative to specified metrics;

wherein the performance metric tools and the management tools are configured to be accessible by a ~~webbased~~ web-based client computer whereby information pertaining to a specific business entity management project may be accessed from the web-based client computer; and

wherein the at least one database system contains data related to one or more data centers which contain respectively data pertaining to knowledge operations, planning operations, contribution functions, information functions, and lifestyle functions.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A computer implemented method to provide data analysis to assist a business entity in improving operations relative to specified business metrics, the method comprising the acts ~~of~~ of:

providing at least one database system containing operations data related to the business entity;

providing a set of performance metric tools, for use in measuring specified business operations;

providing a set of management tools configured to produce data to assist the business entity in self measurement, metric comparisons, and strategic plans development through the use of data contained in the at least one database system, wherein said data to assist the business entity in strategic plans development comprises reports including recommendations to increase the business entity's performance relative to specified metrics; and

providing a computer network interface from which the performance metric tools and the management tools can be accessed by a web-based client computer whereby information pertaining to a specific business entity management project may be accessed from the web-based client computer.

Claim 9 (original): The computer implemented method of claim 8 further comprising an act of providing a set of tools for workforce planning and analysis, with a companion set of learning tools to provide strategic employee development assistance recommendations, whereby the business entity is provided recommendations for optimizing its operations with respect to the specific business metrics.

Claim 10 (original): The computer implemented method of claim 8 wherein the at least one database system contains data related to one or more data centers which contain respectively data pertaining to knowledge operations, planning operations, contribution functions, information functions, and lifestyle functions.

Claim 11 (original): The computer implemented method of claim 10 wherein a data center pertaining to knowledge operations comprises one or more data functions for viewing, manipulating, graphing or downloading data pertaining to one or more of Program Management/Financial data, Capability Development Status data, Capability Deployment Status data, Business Benefits status data, or Project Open Issues data.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 11 wherein the Program Management/Financial data comprises data related to budgeted work completed, data related to actual work completed, data related to budgeted project dollars, and data related to actual project dollars ~~work complete data, budget and actual, and project dollars data, budget and actual.~~

Claim 13 (currently amended): A computer implemented method to provide data analysis to assist a business entity in improving operations relative to specified business metrics, the method comprising the acts of:

providing at least one database system containing operations data related to the business entity;

electronically coupling to the at least one database system, a set of performance metric tools, for use in measuring specified business operations;

electronically coupling to the at least one database system, a set of management tools configured to produce data to assist the business entity in self measurement, metric comparisons, and strategic plans development, wherein said data to assist the business entity in strategic plans development comprises reports including recommendations to increase the business entity's performance relative to specified metrics;

configuring the performance metric tools and the management tools to be accessible by a web-based client computer whereby information pertaining to a specific business entity management project may be accessed from the web-based client computer; and

electronically coupling to the at least one database system, a set of tools for workforce planning and analysis, with a set of learning tools to provide strategic employee development assistance recommendations, whereby the business entity can be provided recommendations for optimizing its operations with respect to the specific business metrics.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A computer implemented method to provide data analysis to assist a business entity in improving operations relative to specified business metrics, the method comprising the acts of:

providing at least one database system containing operations data related to the business entity;

providing a first server mechanism electronically coupled to the at least one database system, the first server mechanism containing a set of performance metric tools, for use in measuring specified business operations;

providing a second server mechanism, electronically coupled to the at least one database system, containing a set of management tools configured to produce data to assist the business entity in self measurement, metric comparisons, and strategic plans development, wherein said data to assist the business entity in strategic plans development comprises reports including recommendations to increase the business entity's performance relative to specified metrics;

wherein the performance metric tools and the management tools are configured to be accessible by a web-based client computer whereby information pertaining to a specific business entity management project may be accessed from the web-based client computer; and

wherein the at least one database system contains data related to one or more data centers which contain respectively data pertaining to at least one of knowledge operations, planning operations, contribution functions, information functions, and lifestyle functions.